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U. S. Suspects Reds Plan Dominican 'War of Liberation'

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By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER
WASHINGTON, April 29 (AP).

BEHIND official U. S. policy in the present Dominican crisis runs a strong current of suspicion that Cuban Communist chief Fidel Castro may be trying to turn the bloody insurrection to his own advantage.

The Johnson Administration is authoritatively described as being on the alert for action to meet any Communist threat. President Johnson is said to be determined not to tolerate either another Cuba in the Caribbean or a Vietnamese-type war on the American doorstep.

A considerable part of the suspicion rests on the persistence of violence and disorder in the Dominican Republic.

U. S. officials say their reports indicate that, since last weekend, several cease-fires have been made and broken. Some experts, at least, interpret this as evidence that a hardcore of rebels is unwilling to yield and permit restoration of order.

White House press secretary George E. Reedy was asked Thursday about reports that two members of Congress who met with President Johnson Wednesday night had said they were told by CIA Director William F. Raborn that fear of a Communist takeover was behind the President's assignment of marines to the Dominican Republic.

Reedy denied this and said Mr. Johnson's public announcement Wednesday night reflected what Congressional leaders had been told. The President said the marines were going in to protect American citizens and help get them out of the country.

IT WAS clear, however, that the presence of U. S. marines in the small island country, whatever their official reason for being there, plus the presence of warships offshore, put the United States in a position to act quickly if it appeared that the Communists were making a serious bid either to take over the government or to plunge the country into a Communist "war of liberation." That is the term the Communists, Soviet and Chinese alike, apply to the war in South Vietnam.

Officials here are trying to figure out what was at stake ultimately in the Dominican explosion which started last Saturday.

Originally, the initiative is believed here to lie with forces backing ousted Dominican chief Juan Bosch against the incumbent regime of Donald Reid Cabral. When Reid's power was broken it became a fight by the Bosch forces to restore their man to power.

Johnson Administration leaders have been concerned, however, with accumulating evidence that the Dominican fight has gone beyond the normal experiences of Latin-American revolutions and that some of the elements known to have been present from the first, including pro-Moscow and pro-Chinese factions, were gaining the upper hand.

U. S. officials reported Thursday that within the last 24 hours or so Bosch party leaders have told them the insurrection is now in the hands of extremists.

ANTONIO MARTINEZ FRANCISCO, secretary general of the Bosch party PRD, was in the original uprising and active through Tuesday, U. S. informants said. He took asylum in the Colombian embassy Wednesday morning when the rebellion appeared to be collapsing.

According to official reports to Washington, Martinez went to San Isidro military base around Wednesday midnight and broadcast that the uprising had ended on terms calling for the holding of elections supervised by the Organization of American States and for Bosch to make an unconditional resignation as president, meaning that he would drop all claims to the job from which he was ousted in a coup in September, 1963.

On the side of positive evidence of Communist or pro-Communist involvement, the Johnson Administration has received a number of reports in the last two days of people being stood against the wall in Santo Domingo and shot to cries of "pardon." The word means "to the wall."

In response to inquiry, State Department informants said there have been 25 indications of Communist involvement in Santo Domingo from outside sources.